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NEW HERITAGE TREE PROGRAM

City of Westminster begins new program promoting Heritage Trees

Westminster, MD – The City of Westminster's Heritage Tree Program has been adopted for the purpose of identifying designated Heritage Trees located within the City. This Program acknowledges that Heritage Trees whether located on public or private property are distinct and unique living resources of the Westminster community.

Mayor Kevin Utz supports the new Heritage Tree Program, stating "this simple act of recognizing the significant trees of Westminster will help bring us together as a community to make a point: trees do matter and play an important role in our history and environment."

Nominations for Heritage Tree designation, can be trees located either on public property, such as street trees, park trees, median trees or on private property and may be made by any resident, property owner or business owner of Westminster.

A heritage tree may be associated with important local or regional history, people, structures, or landscapes. Anyone may nominate a tree for heritage tree designation. As described on the City Website, candidates for designation as heritage trees will be reviewed and approved by the Westminster Tree Commission.

The City shall notify the property owner of the nomination, and then, upon the owner's consent, the application to nominate will be processed. A City Arborist will inspect the nominated tree and produce a picture and description to be displayed on the City website and an identification marker placed near the tree.

Anyone seeking assistance in nominating a heritage tree may contact the Westminster Tree Commission at <u>info@westgov.com</u> or at 410-848-9000.

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The City of Westminster Administration Department is located at 56 West Main Street. This department oversees all of the departments in the General Government and is the central location for the City. For more information, call 410-848-9000 or visit www.westminstermd.gov.